

Valencia County  
Chamber of Commerce

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Volume 2
NEWS LETTER
February 2006

## Cruzin Valencia County & More

### THE MAGICAL MYSTERY CRUISE

The February cruise is going to be a blast. We will all meet up about 1:00 pm at the Wells Fargo Bank in Bosque Farms. Everyone will be given a map that they will follow to our destination. Now I could tell you where that is but then it would not be a mystery would it? You might want to bring a navigator with you this time. When you reach the secret location there will be some games, door prizes, and we will also give away dinner for two. The grand prize will be a one night romance package in the Queen Isabella Suite at the La Mirada Bed and Breakfast in Belen, just in time for Valentines day. This cruise is being brought to you by KARS 860 am the La Mirada B & B and of course our mystery destination.

### BITS FROM JANUARY CRUZ

*What a day we had. At first the weather looked bad but you the Cruzers still came out. It was cold at first!!!!. Chief Chavez told all of us some very interesting facts about his department and the Sturgis rally fire truck. I would like to thank him and his crew for hosting all of us Cruzers at the start of our cruz. I was glad to see that we had 101 Cru-zer at the fire station. The drive to Belen was what a cruz is all about, we went slow and in a group, boy the heads that turned as the 15 minute parade of Cruzers past by. I told one of the Los Lunas police officers earlier that morn-ing that due to the cold only 40-50 cruzers would show. He later told me how surprised he was when he waived 101 of us through the light by the Village Inn. We arrived in sunshine at Auge's with a little hiccup in parking, but with help from my son Jason and his friends we were all parked and ready to eat. The food line moved pretty fast as the curiosity of what's going to happen next was on everybody's mind. At 3:00 pm we had are first car rodeo event (the run for the egg) what fun this was to watch, as we had 9 Cruzers run for it. With a distance of 64.5' in the longest away to the 1.75 in distance that Ed Marihugh ran in the Vega (congrats) during the whole day door prizes were given out every 15 minutes (donated by the Auge Boys,Schofields Kustoms and Bills Signs). Around 3:45 pm we started our 2nd car rodeo event; The backwards solemn course!!!! Found out early that fat tires make good targets for the orange cones ha ha . We had 11 Cruzers try this event, some with power steering, some without (ask Alan Hart). The crew from REK Customs took there 63 Cad Hearst for a run at it: The car is 24 feet long and the cones were only 26 feet apart, what fun this was to watch, as they made it half way. Congrats to Derik White for winning the event. I have to thank my wife Theresa for coming up with the games as they really went over well. Our day rapped up around 4:30 pm with some trophy give a ways. I would like to thank my wife Theresa and my son Jason for the all the work it took to put this together for the Cruzers. Thanks to Ed Marihugh, Alan Hart and Jesse Dote and his wife for the help during the events. A thanks to the car clubs that came down to spend the day with us; The Mopar Club, West Side Cruzers, The Over The Hill Gang, The Rick Shaws, and REK Customs just to mention a few and last but not least or sponsors the Auge Boys, Schofields Kustoms, Bills Signs, and The Los Lunas Fire Dept. We wanted to do something that was never done before and kept the excitement going whether you are young or old drive a restoration or a hot rod. Our totals were : 127 cars and trucks, 4 motorcycles, and 380 chili dogs. I hope everyone had a great time!!!!!!*

*Thanx Bill Schofield*

*We have our web site working now!* Please take some time and visit us at [www.cruzinsouthroute66.com](http://www.cruzinsouthroute66.com).  
*Let us know what you think.*



## February Cruise

SATURDAY THE 11th

We will start at Wells Fargo Bank in Bosque Farms at 1:00 pm. Please join us on our mystery tour. We will have fun for all.

We have our web site up and running. Please take a few minutes and look it over and let us know what you think.

[www.cruzinsouthroute66.com](http://www.cruzinsouthroute66.com)

# 2006 Cruzin Committee

Balido, Nick  
Dickens, John  
Doty, Jesse  
Ferguson, Gary  
Gomez, Randy  
Hart, Alan  
Lamb, Louie  
Marihugh, Ed  
McConaghy, Mike  
Payne, Bill  
Rumschlag, Joyce  
Saul, Kent  
Schofield, Bill & Theresa  
Seals, Bob  
Wolfe, Bob



Awards being handed out at Auges



Allen Hart 55 Ford



What better way to start a new year, a new new's letter and another new project car. This time we have a 1941 Chrysler Royal 3 window coupe that belongs to Ron Connen of Rio communities. The begging of this project was to remove the body so the frame work could be started. The front suspension was removed, the frame rails pinched to accommodate the a-body front end. the rear end was swapped with a newer 8 3/4 Mopar loaded with a 3:23 posi. To update the binders a 4 wheel disc brake system was installed. A 318 ci was updated with a Mopar performance bumpstick and a Holley induction system. Ready to take the rotation to motivation is a 904 automatic. The frame was then painted dark gray with a hammered finish look. Body mods include tunneled caddie tail lights and antennas, a kustom roll pan front and rear, frenched heads, shaved doors, power windows, and a few coats of cool vanilla paint. The seams and holes are welded shut to create that smoothie look. Inside a full line of so-cal goodies installed in a kustom dash, tilt steering and a very user friendly interior. I look forward to seeing this car cruise with us in the near future.

HOTROD LINGO (pinched) frame rails moved closer together. (binders) automobile brakes also juice binders. (tunneled) a component that has been deeply recessed. (smoothie) removal of body molding and accents.

New Mexicans Cruise Colorado Blvd

We thank the Valencia County Chamber of Commerce for their support of our participation in "New Mexico Cruises to the Rose Parade" from December 29th through January 3rd. The send-off party at Route 66 Casino was a blast, complete with food, drinks, live music and roses for all. After a night at Sky City Hotel and a send-off breakfast, we made our way across the state. We stopped in Grants at the Northwest New Mexico Visitors Center and Mining Museum and in Gallup at the world-famous El Rancho Hotel and Restaurant. We were greeted in both places by local officials.

The trip west included stops along Old Route 66, and a stay in Laughlin, Nevada. We were greeted in La Verne (near Los Angeles) by Charlie Tachdjian from the Cal Rods Car Club. He escorted us down Foothill Road (Old Route 66) to the city of Duarte where the New Mexico float was being decorated. What an experience it was! Charlie is more than just a car guy. He owned several car dealerships along Colorado Boulevard, the parade route, and now owns over 45 classic cars and street rods. He has been a Rose Parade official for over 30 years.

At the decorating site, there were five floats in the same tent. The New Mexico float was covered in rolled oats and cinnamon to make it look like adobe. Over the next two days, it transformed before our eyes, and with much help (ours included) became a beautiful flower covered

Spanish mission as you might have seen on television. Lucky you! We were there in the pouring rain, as it turned out. Thank God for rain gear!

On the day of New Year's Eve, we all cruised over to a coffee shop in Glendora, where the Cal Rods members meet. Next door was the coolest place a motor-head could ever imagine, Classic Auto Gallery, which had every car collectible doodad imaginable, from auto related Christmas ornaments to hundreds of die cast classic cars. The rides the Cal Rod boys brought were fantastic. From there, we went to the National Hot Rod Association's Motor Sports Museum in Pomona. Charlie showed up in his vintage fire truck, sirens blasting.

On Sunday morning (New Year's Day), we cruised Colorado Boulevard, (the parade route) with the Cal Rod cars. Many people were already staying and sleeping on the street. Finally, Parade Day came. The float left the assembly site at 3 AM on the morning of the parade (January 2<sup>nd</sup>), traveling at top speeds of five miles per hour and going all of nine miles before lining up at 9 AM with the other floats.

Our old rig ran great. It used about a quart of oil coming and going. Between Laughlin and Barstow we blew out an extra quart trying to keep up with the DOT lead car which was doing 75 miles an hour. There were many thumbs up along the way, too many to count.

Several Route 66 Rodders came along for the cruise: Jim and Rita Johnson in their '54 Ford Mainline 2-door; Barb and Del Packwood in their 1941 Ford pickup; and Becky and Bob Graham in their '37 Chevy 2-door sedan. Also cruising was Bill Joiner's '41 Caddie convertible, driven by his grandson Chris. This Caddie has completed the Great Race five times, with no major overhauls; Andy House drove his '72 Cheyenne C10 pickup. Joe and Kathy Duffy trailered their '56 Bel-Air, as well as Greg Hagman of the DOT, who also trailered his '56 Bel-Air.

For the first time in some 50 years, the parade was rained on, and we were there. Drip, drip. What a blast! Thanks again, Gene and Sarah Heaslet



We send Gene and Sarah Heaslet and every-one else that took that long Cruise to Pomona a special *THANK YOU*. We know that you all had fun. You took time during the busy holiday season to cruise out to Pomona.

AT RANDOM

First of all let me start out by giving KUDOS to **Bill, Theresa and Jay Schofield** for the January cruise. KUDOS also goes out to the **AUGES and the LOS LUNAS fire dept.** for starting the new year off right. I believe that there were 128 cars and trucks in attendance what a way to get it started.

Did you all see the Vega that **Ed Marighugh** was driving I heard that he just got through putting a V- 6 in that thing. I also hear that a super charger is next! Watch out. Put some wings on that thing and some day it is going to fly.

I hear that **Art Sena** just retired from Sandia. Good luck to him. WE did miss seeing **Jean** at the cruise. I understand that she was at a Red hatter meeting.

From Los Lunas to Pasadena, people are talking about the wonderful job **Kathy & Joe Duffy** did organizing the Cruise to the Rose Bowl Parade.

You all should be looking for something new and exciting coming soon some of our cruisers have been working on a Valve cover track. I think it will be at the March cruise with the season getting started at the June Show.

**Ronnie Torres** the Mayor of Belen is asking everyone to Remember When on February 12<sup>th</sup> at the Young Baca's Kicks 66 Long John Silvers A&W on south main S. in Belen. There will be free hot dogs; a car show and a Photo Con-test join them if you can.

**The West Side Cruisers** are hard at work with their 6<sup>th</sup> annual Park "N" The Park Show and Shine. April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> in Rio Rancho. There will be a Sock Hop Friday night at the Sabana Grande Rec. center and the car show at Haynes Park on 528 on Saturday. For Info. You can call Richard at 891-4737 or Bob at 892-8761

Always remember that if you have something for at random please let me know at [theregulator@att.net](mailto:theregulator@att.net) KEEP CRUSIN



A. Boyd 84 El Camino

How do you say SLEEPER!





Johnny Baldando 27 Dodge



Ray Sisneros 33 Plymouth



Dave Laughlin Hurst Olds



Jim Stokes 50 Dodge Taxi

If you have any car shows, club meetings, or anything you would like to put on the calendar please contact Bill @ 864-5921 or the web site. [www.cruzin-southroute66.com](http://www.cruzin-southroute66.com)

FEBRUARY 2006

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
			1	2 Groundhog Day Cruzin Committee Meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	Mystery Cruise 1:00 pm Wells Fargo in Bosque Farms
Long John Silvers/A&W in Belen Car Show	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

New Mexico Connection

Did You Know?



In 1918 the USS New Mexico was commissioned. It was given the military designation BB-40 or was better known as a Battleship. She was 624 feet long and had a displacement of 32,000 tons. On board were 1,084 officers and crewmen. She had a top speed of 21 knots. She was the lead ship of her class. From 1931-1933, she was refurbished and updated, then returned to duty in the Pacific. As WWII approached she was ordered to leave her home port in Hawaii and report for duty in the Atlantic. After the incident at Pearl Harbor, she returned to the Pacific where she earned 6 battle stars and was on hand in Tokyo Bay to witness the Japanese surrender on September 2, 1945. The USS New Mexico was decommissioned on July 19, 1946 and sold for scrap on October 13, 1947.



Gary Ebert 74 GTO

Remember if you knock off the egg I won't have breakfast in the morning!



Even a little cold couldn't keep these folks at home.